

A WEEK IN LABOR CIRCLES

Matters of Interest to Organized Workmen of the District.

MEETINGS FOR THIS WEEK.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25.
 Douglas Progressive Association of Steam Engineers—609 F street.
 L. A. 4308, K. of L. Musicians—Weller's Hall, Eighth and D streets northeast.
 Labor Bureau Committee—Hall, 316 Eighth street, northwest, 7:30 o'clock.
 Executive Committee, D. A. 66, K. of L.—Labor Bureau, 316 Eighth street, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26.
 L. A. 1748, K. of L. Carpenters and Joiners—Society Temple, Fifth and G streets.
 L. A. 1644, K. of L. Plasterers—Plasterers' Hall, Fourth and half street and Pennsylvania avenue.

L. A. 3340, K. of L. Carriages and Wagon Makers—Bureau, Hall, 316 Eighth street, northwest, 7:30 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27.
 Federation of Labor—Plasterers' Hall, Fourth and half street and Pennsylvania avenue.
 Building Trades Council—Electrical Workers' Hall, 609 Eleventh street.
 Plasterers' Association—Labor Bureau, 316 Eighth street, northwest.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28.
 Carpenters, Joiners, and Starbuilders' Union, No. 1—Labor Bureau, 316 Eighth street, northwest.
 Organized Iron and Cornice Workers—737 Seventh street.
 L. A. 2031, K. of L. Tin and Sheet Iron Workers—Plasterers' Hall, Fourth and half street and Pennsylvania avenue.
 Sheet Ironers' Association—Buena Vista Club Rooms, Sixth street, between G and H streets.

Painters and Decorators' Union, No. 170—Red Men's Hall, corner of Ninth and D streets northwest.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29.
 District Assembly, No. 66, K. of L.—Plasterers' Hall, Fourth and half street and Pennsylvania avenue.
 L. U. No. 190, Brotherhood of Carpenters—Hall, 625 Massachusetts street, northwest.
 Plasterers—1230 Seventh street.
 L. B. No. 10, Steam and Hot Water Fitters—K. of P. Hall, 425 Twelfth street.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30.
 L. A. 1798, K. of L. Journeymen House Painters—Labor Bureau, 316 Eighth street, northwest.
 L. A. 4896, K. of L. Electric Association of Steam Engineers—Bureau's Hall, 316 Eighth street, northwest.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31.
 Clear Makers' Union, No. 110—737 Seventh street.

FEDERATION OF LABOR.
 The regular weekly meeting of the Federation of Labor, held last Tuesday evening, was full of interest from beginning to end. The delegates took a very active part in the debates, which were general in character. President McHugh was in the chair, and representatives from twenty-three local organizations were present. The first item coming in later, Credentials of delegates were received and accepted from the Musical and Encaustic Tile Layers' Association.

Under reports of committees, the chairman of the committee to wait on the proprietor of the Lyceum Theater stated that an interview had been had, as per appointment made with Mr. Kernan, who had received the committee in his private office at the theater.

Without listening to the committee, Mr. Kernan had informed them that he would enter into no agreement with organized labor. He had declined to sign a contract with the Central Labor Union, and would do the same with the local Federation of Labor. He was perfectly satisfied with the present state of affairs. Considerable more was said, but as it was not agreed to place the full report before each organization, it was decided to take no further action until the locals had been heard from.

The report from the Commercial Theater job was full of interest. With regard to painting, the report was that every painter now employed on the work was a member in good standing in the Painters' Association of the Knights of Labor. The report gave general satisfaction.

In reference to the plastering the report was not quite so satisfactory. No amicable adjustment could be effected between the contracting plasterer and the Plasterers' Association without violating the fundamental principles of organized labor. The contractor was willing to pay the wage scale on the theater job, but would not agree to make the same terms on his other work. The committee would not agree to this, and rather than embarrass Mr. Metzger had agreed to forfeit the work and let the non union men finish it, as it was a fair way of completion. It had been learned, however, that an attempt had been made by those opposed to the local Federation of Labor to get the men at work on the theater to form an organization, but for what purpose other than that of antagonizing the legitimate organization could not be learned.

The delegates could not see where the benefit came in for a set of men to organize as a labor union, when it was admitted that they were willing to work, and were working for less than the standard rate of wages.

The delegates of the Plasterers further stated that the proposed organization organized were now under suspension for non payment of fines for violating the trade rules of the assembly, but if anyone could make union men out of them the Assembly would wish them good speed.

At the request of President McHugh the delegates from the Plasterers' Association gave a brief history of what the organization had done for the craft in this city, which was as follows: After many failures to sustain a trades union of the craft prior to 1881, the journeymen plasterers were organized into an assembly of the Knights of Labor. The wages of a plasterer at that time was about \$1 per day of not less than ten hours, but the principal drawback to the craft was the piecework system.

After organizing into the Knights of Labor a demand was made for the abolition of all piecework and for a uniform rate of pay of \$2.50 per day. This brought on a strike, which was of short duration, and resulted in a complete victory for the journeymen. Six months later an increase of 50 cents per day was added to the daily pay.

In the spring of the next year 50 cents more was demanded, and after a strike of one day was granted. During this time the hours of labor were reduced to eight per day. At the beginning of the memorable lockout of 1886, the building trades of the city the Plasterers joined hands with their brothers to assist them in getting the same advantages of short hours for some time. During the early history of the organization the craft system had been thoroughly inaugurated, and was still held sacred by the Assembly, and the principal reason of the success of the assembly was due to that system, and it is for the purpose of its abolition that the new organization was proposed.

to be gathered from this was, the delegates stated, that the forming of the organization was for other purposes than that of benefiting Mr. Metzger or organized labor. The delegates from the Workingmen's Library Association stated that arrangements had been made to celebrate the anniversary of the institution on Monday evening, October 26, at the Typographical Temple, giving a musical and literary entertainment to be followed by a hop. The committee was preparing an elaborate program for the occasion.

The affairs of the association was progressing very favorably at the present time. An active interest was being taken in the workings of the institution by a number of business men and others, who had been added to the honorary sustaining membership list. The demand at the bureau for machines for the past two weeks had been greater than the supply.

The Labor Bureau and Workingmen's Association.

One of the most enthusiastic meetings ever held by the managers of the Workingmen's Library Association was held on last Saturday evening. President Frank Dent occupied the chair, and the organizations interested in the affairs of the Bureau and its representatives. The reports from the several organizations were of such an encouraging nature that the managers became very jubilant over the prospects of the institution. Secretary Manlius reported that he had sent out the "appeal" with honorary membership cards to a number of prominent residents, and responses were now coming in by every mail.

From the favorable tone of the letters received, the committee were assured that the establishing of the Bureau and Library was appreciated by all whose attention had been called to it.

The secretary stated that owing to the attention of business men being taken up so much with the damage done by the late storm, he had not sent out the number of appeals that was originally intended, because he thought that proper attention would not be given to them. He was now sending them out every day. The applications for both honorary and sustaining membership cards were also being presented with very flattering regularity.

The committee on anniversary celebration reported that the Typographical Temple had been secured for that occasion for Monday evening, November 23. It had also been decided that the exercises should consist of musical and literary attractions for the first part of the evening and the remainder of the time devoted to dancing.

The report of the committee was approved, with the understanding that the first part of the program would conclude at 9 o'clock, so that as much time as possible be given to dancing. The price of admission for the full program was fixed at 25 cents. The subscription for securing talent for the occasion reported that a sufficient number of first-class artists had volunteered their services for the first part of the program, and for the second part assurances had been received from Fred Kelly, E. Boyd, of the Musical Assembly, that a first-class orchestra had volunteered their services. The committee in charge of the celebration was given full authority to make all the necessary arrangements to insure its success.

The getting up of a printed program, with a final appeal for subscription, was left in the hands of the subcommittee for report at the next meeting.

The committee on heating the large hall of the bureau reported that a large heating apparatus had been secured and put into operation at very small expense, and the hall satisfactorily heated. The fuel for the first month had also been secured without any expense whatever. The thanks of the managers were extended to the committee for the economical management and it was indicated to continue the good work.

The report of the committee on fitting up the extra room with shelving for books, etc., reported that Mr. Bunch, the landlord, had positively refused to give the bureau the use of the room. The report of the committee on the theater job, as from the previous report made at the last meeting the final report had been anticipated. Several of the delegates were indignant over the matter and gave their opinion that if other quarters were secured not only the organizations subsisting, but the theater, but the committee refused direct from Mr. Bunch would lend their support, both morally and financially. The matter was left in the hands of the committee for further report.

Several important additions to the library were reported by the secretary. Also the donation of a City Directory, from Mr. Boyd, the publisher.

After transacting the regular routine business, the delegates and visitors were invited to partake of hot coffee and cake, which had been generously provided, as usual, without any expense to the bureau. To make the occasion more pleasant President Dent gave one of his humorous recitations, entitled "The Colored Deacon's Dream," which brought down the house. The refreshments were in charge of Mrs. C. A. 2, and the entertainment was managed by Mrs. Jennie L. Monroe. After mutual congratulations on bright prospects of the institution the exercises were brought to a close, to meet again at the hall of the bureau, 316 Eighth street, on Sunday evening, October 25, at 7:30 o'clock.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY.
 The regular weekly meeting of the central body of the Knights of Labor of this jurisdiction was held as usual on last Thursday evening in the Plasterers' Hall, Fourth and half street and Pennsylvania avenue. Master Workman W. H. G. Simmons presided over the deliberations of the delegates.

In opening the proceedings the master workman called attention to the continued interest that is being manifested in the affairs of the organization. He stated that the coming annual general assembly, the master workman stated that while he had been elected as one of the delegates to represent the District Assembly in the General Assembly, which meets in Rochester, N. Y., on Tuesday, November 10, it was hardly probable that he could attend, and would give notice to his alternate to hold himself in readiness.

The absence of the worthy foreman, Michael Coff, was noted and excused. It was stated that the worthy foreman was one of the fortunate residents of the District of Columbia who had a vote, and that he had gone to New York to register, so that he would be entitled to exercise his prerogative as citizen on November 10.

The report from the respective local assemblies were full of encouragement. The delegates from the Labor Bureau gave a very flattering report from that institution. The delegates further stated that the meeting of the directors of the bureau on last Saturday evening several appreciative letters had been received from business men and others, which showed that the interest taken in the association was spreading. Among the letters recently received was one from Prof. W. B. Powell, Superintendent of public schools, to Mr. E. J. Daskin, one of the trustees of the library. The letter reads as follows: "Inclosed please find \$10 for your workmen's library—the most worthy object to which money can be given. Cordially yours, W. B. POWELL."

other gentlemen had taken out honorary membership cards. The delegates announced that the next meeting of the Bureau and Library Association would be held on Sunday evening, November 25, in the Bureau hall, at 7:30 o'clock, to which all friends of the movement are cordially invited.

Delegates from the Bakers' Drivers' Assembly reported that a conference had been appointed to act with the Bakers' Assembly and Union for the purpose of forming a co-operative council.

Pioneer Laundry Assembly delegates announced a change of meeting hall. Future meetings of the assembly would be held at 349 Pennsylvania avenue.

Structural Iron Workers reported good attendance at their last meeting. Two new members had been received by initiation. A penalty of \$4 had been fixed for failing to be on time for the next meeting.

Delegates from the Shoe Clerks' Assembly reported that but four shoes failed to close up at 6 o'clock. The agitation would, however, continue until every shoe agreed to conform to the early-closing movement.

Carpenters reported initiations at last meeting. Following is a list of the new members reported to the state of their assembly. Since the formation of the assembly four years ago several attempts had been made to create dissatisfaction by starting opposition unions, but only ended by the strengthening of the assembly. The recent attempt has ended with the same results, and the backsliders are now anxious to be taken back again.

The Bakers' delegates requested that they be allowed to withdraw their application made by them at the last meeting to join the prominent bakery on the union list, as the firm was ready to make an amicable adjustment.

Barbers reported that their called meeting of last Wednesday was the best held in a number of months. Applications for membership had been received from one of the members of the new union. Resolutions were adopted pledging the members to strictly observe all actions of the District Assembly and Federation placing firms on the unfair list.

At this slower rate certainly none could suffer appreciably from the mere transition itself, whereas, most all other great social reforms have claimed not only the life-long savings, but the very life-blood of many victims and martyrs.

Hence, they were not a single tax would be perfectly just to start with in colonizing a new and unexplored country, but object to it here on the ground of its injuring those whose speculative investments were based on confidence in the government's present policy. It was certainly not the intention of the single tax at the slow rate of 1 per cent increase of land value tax each year, and thus join the limited, if not the unlimited, single taxers.

LIMITED VS. UNLIMITED SINGLE TAXERS.
 The unlimited single taxers would take all the unearned increment of land, by taxation for the use, while limited single taxers would take only part of that unearned increment, and some of them would begin taking only very gradually.

But they would all, eventually, take all the taxes off labor and its products, or, at least, they would take it all off the renter, until this universal increment was entirely exhausted. For, until the government or community first consumes all the ground-rent it creates, it is unjust to pension it on the individual's labor product as to pension the millionaire on the peasant's.

The renter of the land, who is the owner of the land, is the one who should pay the tax, and not the laborer, who is the one who should be protected. The renter of the land, who is the owner of the land, is the one who should pay the tax, and not the laborer, who is the one who should be protected.

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Single Tax Column

The Times undertakes no responsibility for any views expressed in this column.

INAUGURATING THE SINGLE TAX.
 Many who think very favorably of the single tax desire to know how it can be inaugurated. They ask how such a radical and far-reaching reform can possibly be brought about without a bloody revolution, such as has inaugurated most other great social reforms.

They seem to think this the necessary concomitant of the birth of every great social reform, such as freeing our slaves and abolishing the English yoke; consequently they are not at all deterred by the bloodshed they consider inevitable and hesitate, for that reason, to advocate the single tax.

But thoroughly initiated single-taxers have no fear that this great reform, powerful and far-reaching though it be, will necessitate any bloodshed either in inaugurating or maintaining it. They advocate not revolution, but evolution, and instead of having men's reason overthrown by angry passions aroused by war, desire to stress the fact that their logical appeal to calm reason may win greater triumphs.

We already tax land values along with labor products, and to this no one objects. If we begin increasing the taxes on land values and proportionately reducing the taxes on labor products, we shall then be tending in the direction of the single tax.

This reducing of taxes on labor products in lieu of increasing them on land values may continue year by year at a rate of 1, 2, 5, 10 or 20 per cent each year, until all of the taxes on industry are entirely eliminated and transferred to land values. Thus the process can be so gradual as to require 100 years for its completion, or it can be accomplished in five years or even less time if desired.

At this slower rate certainly none could suffer appreciably from the mere transition itself, whereas, most all other great social reforms have claimed not only the life-long savings, but the very life-blood of many victims and martyrs.

Hence, they were not a single tax would be perfectly just to start with in colonizing a new and unexplored country, but object to it here on the ground of its injuring those whose speculative investments were based on confidence in the government's present policy. It was certainly not the intention of the single tax at the slow rate of 1 per cent increase of land value tax each year, and thus join the limited, if not the unlimited, single taxers.

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A Big Purchase

Morton C. Stout & Co. Merchant Tailors.

At cost enables us to offer exceptional values this week.

We have closed out a large lot of the latest style suits. These purchases include Worsteds, Cheviots and Cassimeres in plaids and other new effects. The regular prices of these goods are from \$15 to \$30 a suit. To sell them quickly we will make them up to order for

\$10 AND \$15

Morton C. Stout & Co., Merchant Tailors, 1201 F St. N.W.

questioned the city a complete street car line, with money sufficient to run it free for all eternity, then, taking that line would not benefit one iota thereby. For rents in this more desirable locality would at once advance sufficient to counterbalance the advantage, and the landlord, instead of a tenant, would pocket the fare for the improvement.

This is equally true of all other public improvements.

HE HELD THE TRAIN.
 How an Old Dorky Kept His Contract and Got His Money.

One of a party of Washington excursionists returning from a recent trip by the Merchants' and Miners' Line to Boston received an amusing experience with a colored hack driver at Norfolk, Va.

The steamer reached Norfolk early in the morning, and the party was informed by one of its officers that the boat would have time to go over to Virginia Beach, spend an hour there, and return before the boat would be ready to leave.

Hailing a colored man who had a barouche at the wharf they asked him if he could get them to the depot in time for the train. "Yes," he said, but as they doubted his ability to do so, as an incentive to hurrying him up they bargained with him that if he got them to the train in time they would give him as much money, otherwise he was to get nothing and was to bring them back without charge.

He readily accepted the proposition, saying, "All right, boss, I got you dar in time," and then disappeared on a run around the corner, saying as he went, "I won't run over that a minute." Five minutes slipped away and he had not returned. Six and seven minutes found the party still sitting there, and in a frame of mind that boded no good to their man when he did return.

As it was now within two minutes of the scheduled time for the train to leave, and they were ten minutes' ride from the depot, they abandoned all idea of making the trip, got out of the carriage and were moving away, when they saw him coming along at a dog trot, exclaiming as he came up, "Hold on dar, I got you dar in time."

After waiting another minute in stony bearing the old fellow for going off, he declared with such positiveness that he could "get you dar in time," that they got into his vehicle, and as he whipped up his horses and started off, at no very great rate of speed, they reminded him of the bargain—no train, no pay—and he again confidently replied, "Dat's all right, boss, I got you dar in time."

Sure enough, when they drew up at the depot, he was waiting with the conductor impatiently walking up and down the platform with his watch in hand. Passing the old man the fare agreed upon, they hurriedly got aboard, and as the train started they heard him exclaim from the platform behind them, "Hold on dar, I got you dar in time!"

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DISTRICT SOLDIER BOYS

One Week's News and Gossip Around Local Armories.

This week the National Guard has been busy at Ordway shooting for prizes. It was the annual contest and the department of rifle practice is, on the whole, pleased with the result. The matches began Wednesday and the attendance the first day was very large. Of course during the remainder of the shoot the prizes were not open to so many persons and the attendance was not so large.

The top scores were made fair. They have been better. Some of the shooting was very indifferent, though. The inspectors were pleased, however, with the interest shown, and are hoping for better things when the rifle gallery opens this winter.

ENGINEERS KNOCKED OUT.
 One of the features of the matches was the decision knocking out the Engineer Corps. The Engineer Corps can shoot, and knows it. So do the other commands in the brigade. The Engineers were entered in the volley skirmish match, which was limited to the regulars, and the Fourth Battalion protested the entry of the Engineers and the board at the range decided that the protest was well taken.

The next shooting at the range will be Thanksgiving Day. Last year a great deal of interest was taken, and a large number of guardsmen were out. Each man was required to pay 25 cents entrance fee, and these fees were divided up into prizes. The same thing, it is expected, will be done this year.

No definite arrangements have yet been made as to the presentation of prizes. The medals and crosses for the marksmen and sharpshooters of a year ago have arrived, and there is a desire that all the presentations take place the same evening. The headquarters of the regulars, and medals to the colonels to the regulars, and he has them distributed as he sees fit. In most cases, there is more or less ceremony connected with the affair.

There is some talk this year of ordering the entire brigade out to do honor to the occasion. The headquarters of the regulars, and medals to the colonels to the regulars, and he has them distributed as he sees fit. In most cases, there is more or less ceremony connected with the affair.